

ters received between 1.7.91 and 31.10.91 was 2245.

(b) and (c). Action on most of the letters is required to be taken by different ministries and departments. These letters have been sent to the concerned ministries and departments with the advice to have them examined expeditiously and send an appropriate reply to the Members of Parliament concerned.

There are certain other letters in respect of which action is required to be taken by the Prime Minister's Office. These are processed with due diligence and expedition.

There are some others on which no specific action is required. However, in all cases, acknowledgements are sent from the Prime Minister to the Members of Parliament concerned.

Appointment of Executives in Public Sector Units

3227. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the executives for the public sector units have been selected on the basis of merit;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria adopted in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Selection to the Board-level posts in the Central Public Sector undertakings are made on the basis of the specific job requirements of each Board-level post from among the candidates fulfilling the eligibility

criteria with regard to age, experience and posts held by them in their respective organisations. At the time of interview, the Public Enterprises Selection Board also takes into account the experience, service records and the Annual Confidential Reports of the persons and their performance in the interview.

(c) Does not arise.

Down-ward trend in the prices of essential commodities

3228. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-
YAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a down-ward trend in the prices of some essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The essential commodities which have recorded a down-ward trend in the wholesale price indices during the last four weeks upto 16.11.1991 are given below:

Arhar	-	1.1
Gram	-	0.4
Barley	-	1.2
Mutton	-	1.3
Black Pepper	-	5.1
Turmeric	-	4.7
Tea	-	4.2